

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages – February 10, 2022 12:00 PM

- Good afternoon.
- The situation in Ottawa is generally unchanged – we are seeing lower numbers of people than during the weekend, there are still around 500 trucks parked downtown, and Ottawa Police are continuing with enforcement.
- The Integrated Planning Cell started meeting Tuesday afternoon to assess the Ottawa Police plan, and identify required resources for its implementation. I'll be blunt – I have concerns.
- Strategic Tactical planners from the RCMP, OPP, Ottawa Police and other police services in the province were identified to be part of the Planning Cell. Their job is to review, challenge and provide feedback to the plan. When they showed up yesterday morning, there was no OPS plan to review.
- Later that day Chief Sloly verbally shared what they were going to do, however was not receptive to any feedback from the SMEs on the risks associated with his proposed course of action. There was no open discussion on the way forward.
- Chief Sloly is under immense pressure and is looking to do anything to appear to be taking action. But our assessment is that the information provided by Ottawa Police thus far does not constitute a viable plan. And his request for resources has been a moving target.
- However, on a more positive note, as of this morning I understand that we now have the right people from Ottawa Police engaged with the Integrated Planning Cell. I am hopeful more fruitful discussions will take place today.

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- Our planners want to move away from quick wins through a seize and contain strategy to a more fulsome mass plan that will take us to a conclusion. The bottom line is that we will do everything we can to support police outside of our jurisdiction where we can.
- That being said, to plan appropriately, there are unlikely to be any significant actions taken for a few days. This is based on a sound operational basis and our goal with any plan is to maximise public and police safety.
- Although our attention has been focused on downtown Ottawa, we are facing challenges across the country.
- In Ottawa this morning, vehicles performed a Slow Roll Convoy aimed at circling the departures and arrival lane at the Ottawa International Airport. This is now over. RESOLVED
- We are seeing increased action at several POEs. While I will let CBSA speak to the specific elements, there are either significant traffic delays or full-on blockades at Coutts (Alberta), Emerson (Manitoba), Windsor and Sarnia (Ontario).
- The RCMP is the police of jurisdiction for Coutts and Emerson. As you know, we have been engaged on Coutts for quite some time and efforts are still underway today to move the protestors to the plot of land west of Milk River, that was approved by the province as a temporary lawful protest site. No protestors have moved to this site. I am sure it is no surprise that while progress is being made, it is slow and not without challenges. Cattleman's Association negotiated passage for 11 cattle trucks to pass.
- For Emerson, we are redirecting traffic where possible. Apparently Thursday is a major crossing day for livestock, and we have negotiated for those trucks carrying livestock to be let through.

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- Also in Manitoba, the demonstration at the Winnipeg legislature is ongoing, but is being well-managed by the Winnipeg Police Service.
- There is open source reporting of plans to block CN railways, as well as multiple solidarity protests across the country heading into the weekend. We already have at least 24 protests planned at locations across BC between now and the end of the weekend, with more on the radar for late February and early March.
- There are another 5 currently planned in Nova Scotia and 5 in Manitoba. This is just what we know of now, but I expect there will be more.
- Managing these protests is a huge draw on the RCMP's Contract Policing resources – especially with Article 9 having been invoked in Alberta.
- Therefore, RCMP resources to support Ottawa Police and efforts in Windsor need to come from Federal Policing. Thus far, we have deployed the resources we can. Deploying more will have a huge impact on operations, including a number of national security investigations. We have increased our frontline resources to 250 for direct support to OPS, however we have moved one of our Public Order Units to Windsor as a result of an ask by OPP.
- Finally, this is spreading beyond Canada. The European Strategic Intelligence and Security Center is reporting that "the Paris police prefecture has banned the entry into the capital of the "Freedom Convoys" which are currently converging on the city and are expected to arrive on Friday" and that there are calls "for a "European convergence" in Brussels" on Monday.
- Thank you.

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